

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

10

An apparatus for selecting one out of two functions, comprising:
a first entity having a first function, a second function, at least one
detector and a function select mechanism;
a second entity having at least one of the first function and the second
function; and
an interface for connecting the first entity and second entity, the interface
connected to the at least one detector;
wherein the at least one detector detects a function of the second entity
when connected to the first entity, and the function select mechanism selects one
out of the first and second functions in the first entity in response to an output of
the at least one detector corresponding to the detected function.

15

2. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first function and the
second function are a host function and a device function, respectively.

20

3. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the at least one detector is
two detectors.

4. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the detector includes a
comparator.

25

5. The apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein the two detectors each
include a comparator.

25

6. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the function select
mechanism includes a microprocessor.

7. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the interface is a Universal
Serial Bus.

30

8. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first entity and second
entity are both a digital camera.

9. The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the first entity is a digital
camera and the second entity is a printer.

10. An apparatus for selecting one out of two functions, comprising:

a first entity having a first function, a second function, at least one detector and a function select mechanism;

5 a second entity having one of the first function and the second function; and

an interface for connecting the first entity and second entity, the interface connected to the at least one detector;

10. wherein the at least one detector detects a function of the second entity when connected to the first entity, and the function select mechanism selects one out of the first and second functions in the first entity in response to an output of the at least one detector corresponding to the detected function.

11. An apparatus for selecting one out of two functions, comprising:

a first entity having a first function, a second function, a detector and a function select mechanism;

15 a second entity having one of the first function and the second function;

and

an interface for connecting the first entity and second entity, the interface connected to the detector;

20 wherein the detector detects a function of the second entity when connected to the first entity, and the function select mechanism selects one out of the first and second functions in the first entity in response to an output of the detector corresponding to the detected function.

12. The apparatus as defined in Claim 11, wherein the function select mechanism includes a field programmable gate array or gate array.

25 13. A method of selecting one out of a first function and a second function a first entity has, with respect to a second entity that has at least one of the first and second functions, the method comprising:

activating a first power source to the first entity;

connecting the first entity to the second entity via an interface;

30 detecting at least one voltage on the interface by connecting a first resistor between the interface and a second power source;

14. The method as defined in Claim 13, wherein selecting the first function and the second function is selecting between a host function and a device function.

15. A method of selecting one out of a first function and a second function a first entity has, with respect to a second entity that has one of the first and second functions, the method comprising:

providing a power source to the first entity;
connecting the first entity to the second entity via
20 detecting at least one voltage on the interface;
determining if the detected voltage is over a threshold;
if so, selecting the first function; and
if not, selecting the second function.

25

30